Investment in Mines Sector of Gujarat

4972. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total Central Investment in mines sector in Gujarat during the last three years year-wise vis-a-vis other States;

(b) the allocation proposed during the Eighth Five Year Plan for Gujarat; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) As there is no Public Sector undertaking or any other organisation under the Ministry in the State of Gujarat this Ministry has not released any funds in the Mines Sector in the State,, nor made any such allocation for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Hutti Gold Mines Ltd.

4973. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector Hutti Gold Mines Ltd. has recently taken up projects to increase the production capacity of its gold Unit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited (HGML), a Karnataka State Government Undertaking, has taken up a project to modernise its mines at Hutti and to increase the production from the mines from the present 910 tonnes per day to 3000 tonnes per day. According to HGML, the gold production after the projects is fully implemented, is expected to increase from the present one tonne to about 3.5 tonnes per annum.

Investment in Mining Sector

4974. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the snags which tend to hold up foreign investment in mining sector and what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to remove these snags; and

(b) what are the details of the foreign investment proposals in the mining sector so far received, which of these proposals have been finalised and which are yet to be finalised together with the reasons for holding up of these proposals?

THE MINISER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sales and profit of KIOCL

4975. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL), has witnessed a slump in the sales turnover and profit during the year ending March, 1994;

(b) if so, the reason for sales and profits of KIOCL slumping and fall in production of concentrate; and

(c) the steps being taken to raise its overall output and concentrate during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) did not witness any slump during the year 1993-94 in its sales turnover. The Company recorded a turnover of Rs. 416.69 crores during the year, which was an all time high. Likewise, the production of Iron ore concentrates at 6.20 million tonnes in 1993-94 was also a record achievement. However, net profit of the company during the year 1993-94 was marginally lower at Rs. 94.87 crores as compared to Rs. 100.15 crores in the preceding year. This was primarily due to a fall in the international prices of Iron Ore and hike in power tariff.

Basic grade pig iron for export

4976. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several private parties have approached the Visakhapatnam Steel Authorities for supply of basic grade pig iron for export;

(b) if so, the number of applications received and the action taken by the Steel Plant Authorities; and

(c) the reasons of abnormal delay therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant received 91 applications from July, 1994 till April, 1995 and all of them have been replied suitably and promptly. 58 applications were replied on the same day, 21 the next day and the remaining 12 in two days. Details of action taken on the applications received are as follows:—

Total applications		91
Offers given		42
Offers rejected		38
(i) Due to Non-availability	25	
(ii) Due to not matching of specificatio	8	
(iii) On commercial groun	5	
	38	
General Corresponden		11

(c) Not applicable in view of answer to part (b) above.

Privatisation of iron ore mines in Bailadila

4977. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatise bring under Joint Venture iron ore mines in Bailadila; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) is currently operating two mining projects in Bailadila, namely Deposit 14/11C and Deposit 5. In order to meet the increasing demand for Bailadila iron ore, NMDC proposes